

Make trade school choice warily

Before enrolling in a vocational school it is wise to do some homework on the school's credibility and suitability of the school before signing a contract.

Private vocational schools may be a good means of obtaining practical training in a specialized field or vocation. This education is designed to prepare students for entry level jobs in business and industry.

The skills learned at a vocational school may enable the unemployed to secure a job or the employed to advance to a higher level job. Although most vocational schools are reputable, the Better Business Bureau advises that some schools may not be able to fulfill a career-aspirant's expectations.

FOR EXAMPLE, some radio and television ads have enticed the unsuspecting to enroll in courses which supposedly lead to jobs upon graduation.

In one case a young man went to a vocational school for keypunch operator classes; the tuition was \$2,900 for a nine-month course. Ad-

missions officials assured him federal student aid funds could be used.

Six months later the young man discovered his grant didn't cover \$1,200 of the cost. He also became dissatisfied with the choice of classes he was allowed to take so he dropped out. None of his money was refunded.

Other students from the same school reported similar financial difficulties. One woman claims she was duped into borrowing \$1,300 from the school at 18 percent interest. Another woman said she signed a contract to borrow \$300 from the school and the next time she saw the form, the figure had been erased and replaced by \$2,000.

THERE ARE OTHER considerations in choosing a private vocational school. There are several questions that should be answered first. Is the school accredited? Accreditation is given by various private agencies recognized by the U.S. Office of Education and indicates that a school meets certain qualifications or standards.

Does the vocational school have an open-admissions policy? To avoid

the trap of paying for a course and finding out it is too difficult, check out the services available for students who may need extra help.

Is there a free placement service for graduates? Find out if this merely means they send graduates' names to a list of companies. Ask for actual placement information. Remember that no school can guarantee a job at graduation.

IT'S ALWAYS a good idea to visit the school. Talk with the faculty and find out their qualifications.

Is there a high rate of instructor turnover? Talk to current students; their feedback could be beneficial.

Ask for copies of the school's course catalogs and any other descriptive information about the content of the lessons, audio-visual aids, instructional equipment, etc. Study this material carefully to see if the class offerings will adequately suit specific career objectives.

Don't forget to ask for the names and addresses of recent graduates. A reputable school will be happy to give this information. Contact recent graduates to find out if the

school really helped them in obtaining a job.

Also talk with the graduates' employers. Are they satisfied with the graduates' work performance? Would they hire more graduates from the particular vocational school? How much money could a hired graduate expect to earn?

FINALLY, NEVER SIGN an agreement until it's thoroughly read and understood.

Make sure the total cost in the contract includes books, labs, equipment fees, graduation fees, etc. There should be no blanks in the contract and all promises should be in writing. The school's refund and cancellation policy should be clear. Find out if any tuition money will be refunded in case you become dissatisfied with the courses.

The Better Business Bureau advises interested students to evaluate the credibility and suitability of a private vocational school before signing an enrollment contract. Doing some homework on the credentials of a vocational school before investing could mean a more satisfying education.

NEIL DIAMOND/BEE GEES
EAGLES/DOBBIE PROTHE
LINDA RONSTADT/CHICAGO
ROD STEWART/FLEETWOOD
MAC/BARRY MANILOW
CHILY JOEL/AMIE MURRAY
CHILY SIMON/ROD STUART
GEORGE BENTLEY/JOHN
BAYNOR/ROBERTA BLACK
ERIC CLAPTON/JOHN LEWIS
MELISSA MANCHESTER
LITTLE RIVER BAND/BABY
STRECH
FREE SAMPLE!
ALL-MUSIC HOURS
9 AM & 5 PM EVERYDAY
wmjcfm 95
THE BEST MUSIC.

Dine Out Tonight

GARAGE DOOR OPENERS
BY ALLIANCE
MODEL GS 450
\$17500
INSTALLED
SOLID STATE
CONTROLS
\$185.00
DIGITAL
CONTROLS
1 YEAR WARRANTY
ALADDIN "GENIE"
Serving Tri-County Areas
WESTLAND PARTS & SERVICE
722-0610
PONTIAC 335-9079

2 P.M. SUNDAY APRIL 22
INFORMATION DAY
at
MADONNA COLLEGE
-coeducational-
FOR A COURSE OR A CAREER
CONSULT OUR COUNSELORS
-LEAP Funds
-Financial Aid
-Scholarships
-Veterans' Benefits
-Cooperative Education
-Day or Evening Classes
-Barrier-Free Environment
-Supportive Services for Deaf and Hearing-Impaired
36600 SCHOOLCRAFT - LIVONIA 591-1200

VISIT OUR NEW STORE
EVERYTHING WESTERN
FRYE
and Cowboy
BOOTS
Leather Jackets
LEVI WRANGLER LEE
Western-Style SHIRTS
Leather Repair
Saddles and Horse Supplies
Scott Colburn
A Western Store
3011 Farmington Rd. at Dixie • Livonia 44135 • Tel. 476-1262
Mon. - Sat. 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Sun. 12:00 - 6:00 p.m.

ELIAS BROTHERS
\$100,000
have more fun in Michigan
PRIZE DRAWING

• 3 Midas® Mini Motorhomes!

• 10 Sunfish® Sailboats!

• 10 Moped Motor Bikes!

1000 PRIZES!

- 3 Midas® Series 2000 Mini Motorhomes (America's #1 selling Mini Motorhome brand)
- 10 AMF Alcott Sunfish® Sailboats
- 10 Motobecane Moped Model 7 Motor Bikes
- 20 Sony FX-310 Entertainment Packages (TV, AM-FM Radio and Cassette Recorder)
- 45 Eska 10 Speed Electric Trolling Motors
- 150 Wenzel Sleeping Bags w/ Stuff Sack
- 25 Wenzel Eagle 8' x 10' Cabin Tents
- 200 Wenzel Skeddadle Back Packs
- 200 Weber "Smokey Joe" Portable Barbeque Kettles
- 200 Spaulding Championship Tennis Rackets w/cover
- 75 Minolta Pocket Autopack 430 E Cameras w/built-in strobe
- 62 \$2.50 Elias Gift Certificate Books "Good for all the good things at Elias Brothers"

Elias Brothers celebrates over 40 years in Michigan!

We are proud to be a Michigan based corporation and a vital part of the Michigan scene. Because we have served quality food since 1938, we have continued our growth throughout the state and today we provide jobs for more than 10,000 Michiganders.

We want you to have an opportunity to win one of 1000 fabulous prizes that will help you have more fun in our great state. That's why we're presenting our \$100,000 "Have More Fun in Michigan" prize drawing.

And as you travel about, remember you can

Elias BROTHERS
Quality Food Since 1938

add to your pleasure by stopping to eat at an Elias Brothers Restaurant. We will continue to offer you the finest quality food and warm, friendly service in the most pleasant surroundings.

No purchase required. This offer limited to one prize per family and is restricted to licensed drivers 16 years of age or older living in the United States or Canada.

Employees of Elias Brothers, its advertising agency, its franchisees and employees, its judging organization and members of their immediate families are not eligible. Contest ends May 20, 1979. Complete details available at Elias Brothers Big Boy Restaurants.